

Message Text

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21

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 9513

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, ENRG, NI

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX

REF: (A) LAGOS 9316, (B) LAGOS 9509

1; IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION NICHEMTEX POLYESTER PROJECT REPORTED REFTEL (B), AKZO REPRESENTATIVE AFFIRMED THAT HIS COMPANY IS INTERESTED IN VINYL CHLORIDE MONOMER (VCM) ASPECT OF NIGERIAN PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX, AND POSSIBLY ALSO CHLORINE PRODUCTION. AKZO WOULD NOT GET INTO PVC PRODUCTION.

2; DAKKER SAID HE ESTIMATED PRESENT NIGERIAN MARKET FOR VCM IS ONLY 15,000 TO 20,000 TONS PER YEAR, WHILE MINIMUM ECONOMIC (AS OPPOSED TO TECHNICAL) PLANT SIZE IS MORE LIKE 100,000 TPY. THIS MAY BE ONE REASON FOR HESITATION ON PART OF PROSPECTIVE PARTNERS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THE PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX CAN BE GEARED TO PRODUCE MORE ETHYLENE FOR POLYETHYLENE FILMS AND LESS VCM FOR PVC END PRODUCTS. HE NOTED NIGERIA WILL HAVE TO IMPORT SALT IT WILL USE TO MANUFACTURE CHLORINE.

3. DEKKER CALCULATED AS A VERY ROUGH GUESS THAT PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX, WHEN IF FULL OPERATION, MAY USE AS MUCH AS 200 BILLION CUBIC FEET PER YEAR OF NATURAL GAS. THIS CAN BE COMPARED WITH 730 BILLION CF/Y THAT WILL BE CONSUMED BY TWO LNG PLANTS TOGETHER. OVER 22 YEAR LIFE EXPECTANCY OF LNG PLANTS, THESE THREE PLANTS COMBINED WOULD STILL ONLY USE SLIGHTLY IN EXCESS OF 20
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TRILLION CUBIC FEET, JUST ONE-THIRD OF NIGERIA'S PROVEN

GAS RESERVES.

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Message Attributes

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